Best Practices in Workplace Surveillance
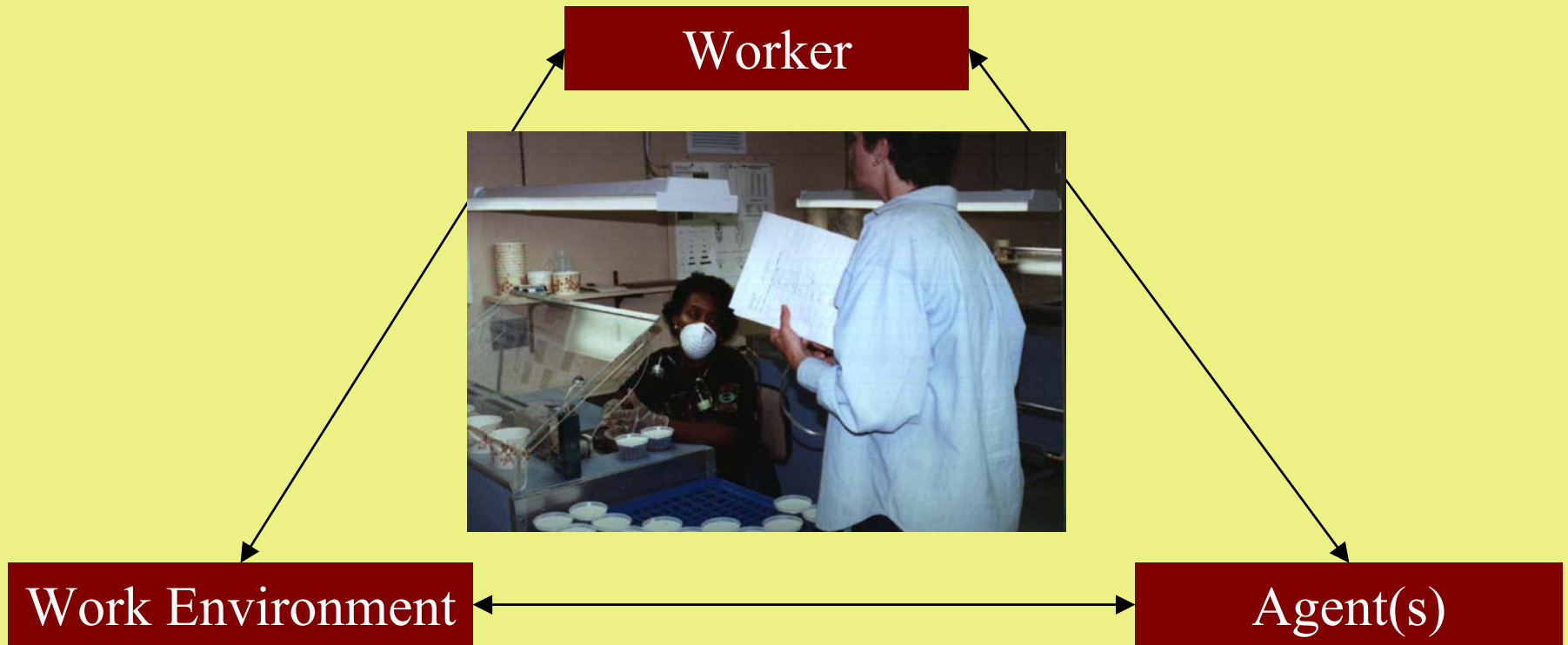
Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

November 7-9,2001
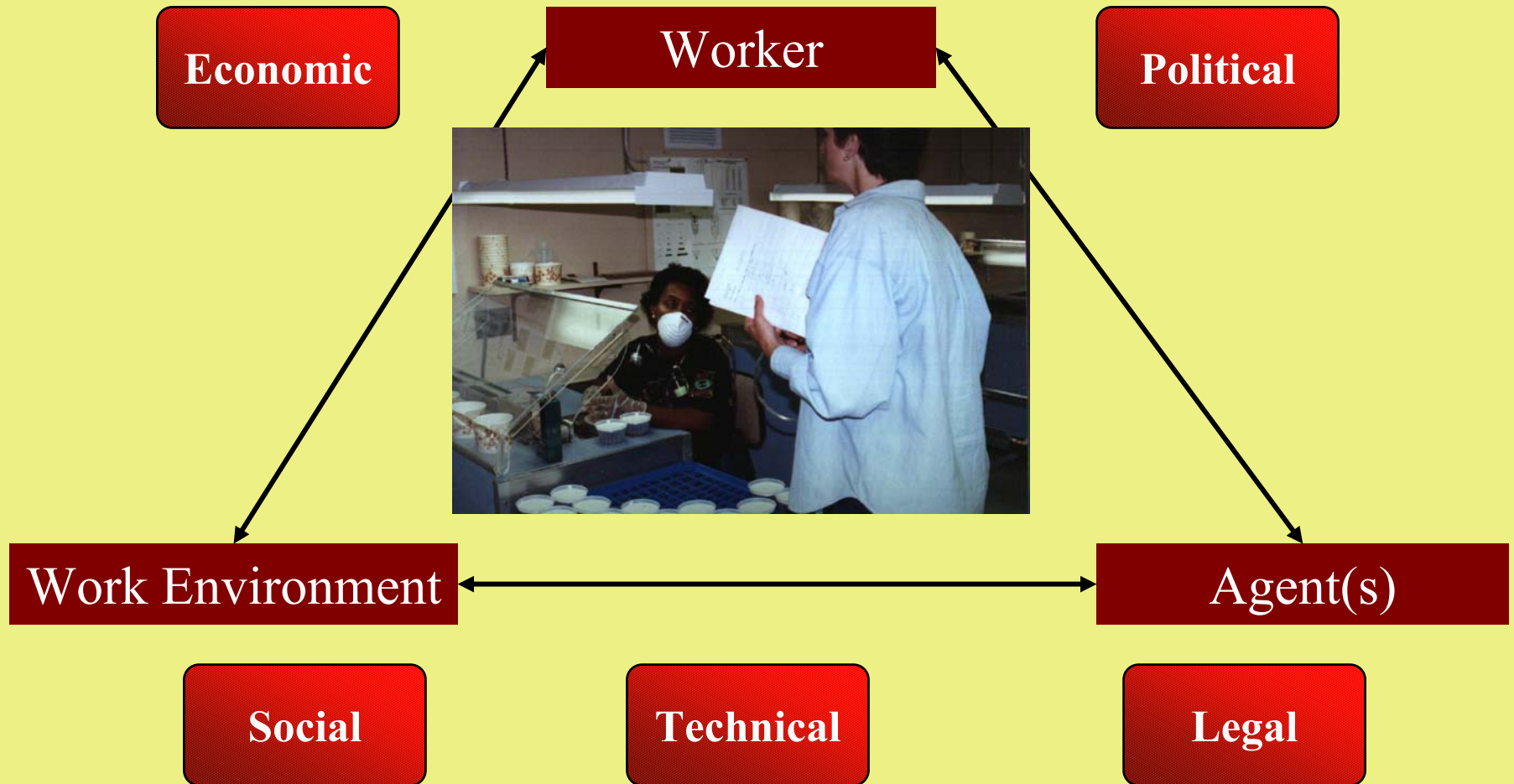
Cincinnati, Ohio

Preventing Occupational Illness - Strategies

Worker

Work Environment ⟷ Agent(s)

Preventing Occupational Illness - Context

Economic

Worker

Political

Work Environment

Agent(s)

Social

Technical

Legal

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Tim Takaro – US DOE Former Worker Monitoring

Strengths:

- Practical approaches to a difficult surveillance problem

- Defined objectives in dynamic way

- Overcame logistical and other obstacles

- Benefits immediately perceived by workers

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Tim Takaro – US DOE Former Worker Monitoring

Challenges:

 Maximizing analytic utility of data

 Describing lessons for ongoing and future activities

 Use the program for secondary/tertiary prevention

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Mary Townsend – Spirometry Techniques and Equipment

Strengths

      Highlighted pitfalls in a key screening tool

      Suggested approaches to mitigate impacts

      Emphasized the importance of quality data

Challenges

      Describe overall impact and extent of these problems

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

David Deubner – Medical Surveillance in the Beryllium Industry

Cancelled Due to a Family Emergency

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Bernadette Stringer – Effectiveness of OR Handsfree Technique

Strengths

      Described a simple, efficient intervention

      Well designed study of a best practice

Challenges

      Clarify barriers to effective adoption

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Joe Kleinkort – The WORKSTEPS Model

 (A proprietary system for reducing ergonomic injuries)

Strengths

A well-structured approach to assessing job requirements and worker fitness

Promotes a good match of worker and task

Assists in meeting regulatory and legal requirements

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Joe Kleinkort – The WORKSTEPS Model

Challenges

Maximizing surveillance utility of system data

Integrating worker involvement

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Tim Webster – BLS Data Injuries in Eating and Drinking

Strengths

      National scope

      Demonstrates surveillance application of BLS data system

Challenges

      Maximizing utility of findings to individual workplaces

Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

Jay Brown – An Information Tool to Assist Surveillance

Strengths

      Addresses linkages between health and exposure

      Broadens accessibility of important data and associations

      Effectively utilizes information technology
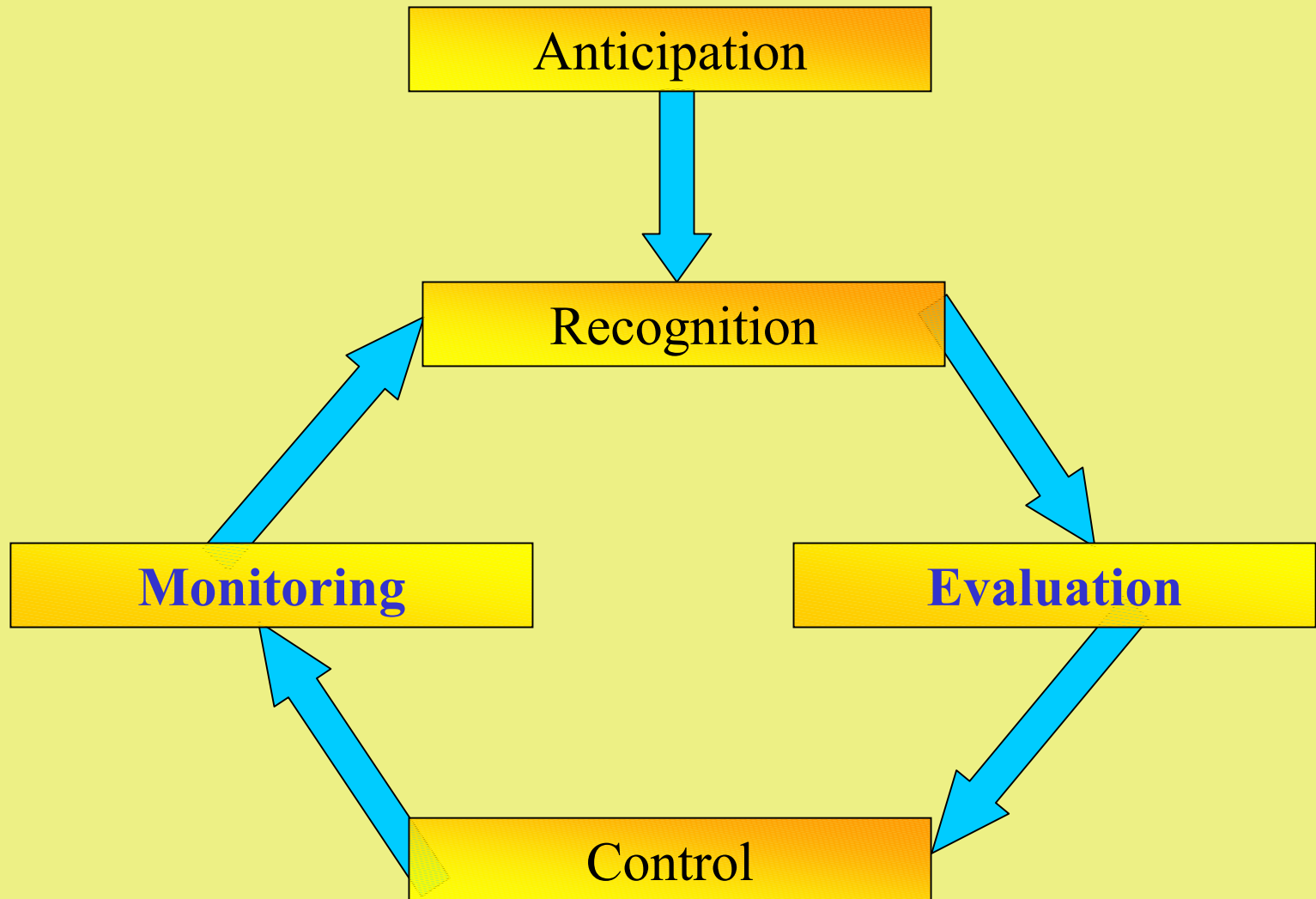
Opportunities and Roles for Professional Groups

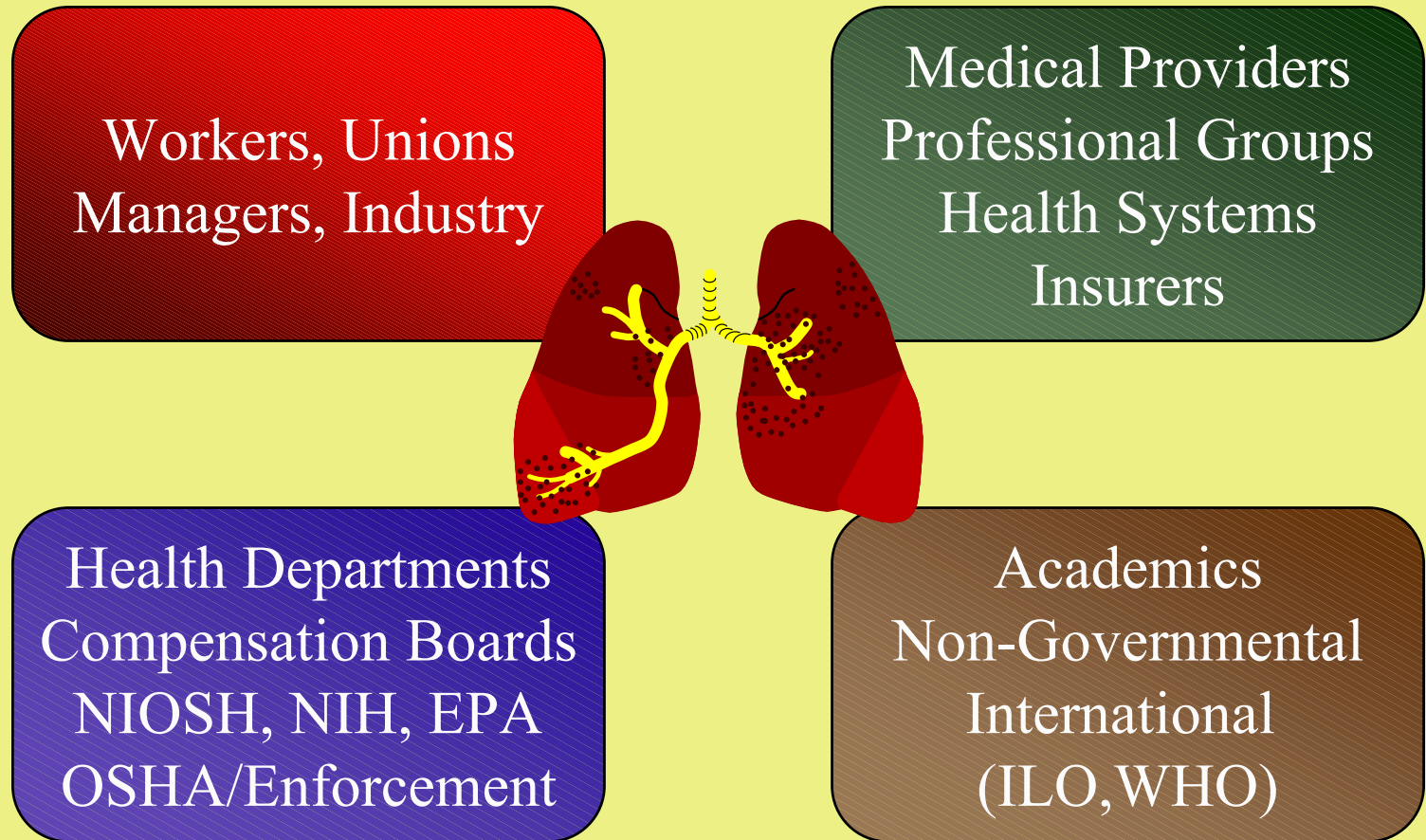Jay Brown – An Information Tool to Assist Surveillance

Challenges

      Defining input data quality

      Describing decision logic

A Prevention Model for Occupational Illness and Injury

Anticipation

Recognition

Monitoring

Evaluation

Control

Preventing Occupational Illness and Injury: Who Has a Role?

Workers, Unions Managers, Industry

Medical Providers Professional Groups Health Systems Insurers

Health Departments Compensation Boards NIOSH, NIH, EPA OSHA/Enforcement

**Academics Non-Governmental International (ILO,WHO)**

Targeting Workers
Process and Task
Environmental Exposures
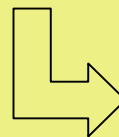Individual (age, concurrent morbidity)
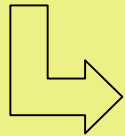
Screening Processes
Methods/Procedures/Quality
Participation /Confidentiality
Interpretation and Reporting
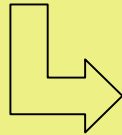
Management of Individual Workers
Referral Options
Evaluation Protocols
Hazard Control and Medical Follow Up
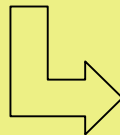
Health Surveillance
Aggregation
Analysis
Reporting

Management of the Work Environment
Control Technology Assessment
Preventive Interventions
Education/Information Dissemination

Managers

Worker Representatives

Hygienists, Engineers

Occupational Health Professionals

Medical Screening And Surveillance